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Message Text

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ACTION IO-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 AF-04 ARA-10 EA-07 EUR-10 RSC-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-10 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-07

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-14 USIA-04 ACDA-10 NASA-01

SCI-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /103 W
---------- 083410
R 110119Z OCT 74
FM USMISSION USUN NEWYORK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6245
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 3958

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: UNGA, TSPA
SUBJ: OUTER SPACE: PAKISTANI-INDIAN DISPUTE ON INDIAN USE
OF THUMBA ROCKET STATION

REF: USUN 3904

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED:

1. DURING CONSULTATIONS AMONG POTENTIAL COSPONSORS TO OUTER SPACE OMNIBUS RESOLUTION ON OCT 9, PAKISTANI REP REQUESTED INCLUSION OF PROVISION WHICH WOULD IN ESSENCE CALL ON INDIA TO UNDERTAKE A BINDING AND UNEQUIVOCAL OBLIGATION THAT THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT AT THE THUMBA RANGE WILL NEVER BE DIVERTED TO OTHER THAN PEACEFUL PURPOSES. THE DISCUSSION CONTINUED OCT 10 WITH INDIAN DEL PRESENT.

2. INDIAN DEL STATED THAT SUCH A PROVISION DID NOT BELONG IN THE OUTER SPACE RESOLUTION, THAT SUCH AN UNEQUIVOCAL UNDERTAKING WAS OUT OF CONTEXT AND INAPPROPRIATE, THAT SUCH POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS SHOULD
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NOT BE PART OF THE UNGA'S EVALUATION OF THE WORK AT THE UN

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SPONSORED THUMBA RANGE.

3. THE PAKISTANI DEL STATED THAT HE WAS NOT CASTING
DOUBT ON THE GOOD WORK DONE AT THE FACILITY BUT WAS
CONCERNED ABOUT FUTURE DIVERSION OF THAT WORK TO
NON-PEACEFUL PURPOSES. HE STATED THAT ALL HE WAS
REQUESTING WAS A COMMITMENT FROM INDIA THAT IT WOULD NOT
DO SO IN THE FUTURE, PARTICULARLY IN LIGHT OF THE AGREED
PRINCIPLE THAT UN SPONSORED RANGES SHOULD BE USED ONLY
FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES.

4. IN REPLY THE INDIAN DEL SAID THAT WE COULD NOT DRAFT
RESOLUTIONS ON THE BASIS OF APPREHENSIONS, FOR IF WE
DID SO THERE WOULD BE NO END TO IT. END UNCLASSIFIED

BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL

5. (COMMENT: AT NO POINT DID INDIAN DEL DENY THAT WORK
OTHER THAN FOR PEACEFUL PURPOSES WAS TAKING PLACE AT
THUMBA, ALTHOUGH HE REPEATEDLY EMPHASIZED THAT IT WOULD
BE INAPPROPRIATE TO DISCUSS IT IN THIS CONTEXT. AFTER A
BRIEF DISCUSSION IT BECAME OBVIOUS TO THE OTHER
COSPONSORS THAT NO SOLUTION COULD READILY BE FOUND, AND
THE TWO CONCERNED DELS AGREED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER
BETWEEN THEMSELVES. IT REMAINS UNCERTAIN WHETHER ANY PROVISION
ON THIS ISSUE WILL BECOME PART OF THE OMNIBUS RES.
END OMMENT.)
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, RESOLUTIONS, SPACE EXPLORATION, RANGES (FACILITIES)
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 11 OCT 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: elyme
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974USUNN03958
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740289-0803
From: USUN NEW YORK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19741050/aaaabqvs.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: USUN 3904
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: elyme
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 JUL 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02 JUL 2002 by shawdg>; APPROVED <17 MAR 2003 by elyme>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OUTER SPACE: PAKISTANI-INDIAN DISPUTE ON INDIAN USE OF THUMBA ROCKET STATION
TAGS: TSPA, PK, IN, UNGA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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